

REMARKS

In the Office Action claims 1-14 were rejected. By present response claims 6 and 14 have been amended. Upon entry of amendments, claims 1-14 will be pending in the present patent application. Reconsideration and allowance of all pending claims are requested.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 112

In the Office Action, claims 1-14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement. However, Applicant submits that the claims are believed to be completely and adequately supported by the specification, which is enabling.

Applicant wishes first to point out that none of the claims relate specifically to a series of repeatable fuel cell units. Instead, the claims relate to a cooling apparatus disposed with respect to a single fuel cell unit, which is adequately supported in the specification. It is therefore believed that claims 1-14 comply with the enablement requirement under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph. In view of the above arguments, it is requested that the rejection of claims 1-14 under 35 U.S.C. § 112 be withdrawn.

Moreover, as one skilled in the art would readily recognize, an actual fuel cell stack (i.e. a series of repeatable fuel cell units) could include other components such as a non-porous separator plate disposed between a cathodic interconnect of one fuel cell unit incorporating the flow of the oxidant and an anodic interconnect of an adjacent fuel cell unit incorporating the flow of the fuel. These components would fluidically separate the fuel from the oxidant. Although the same is not shown in the specification, one skilled in the art would know how to incorporate the cooling mechanism of the present application in a fuel cell stack. Again, additional details regarding such stack structures are simply beyond the cope of the present application.

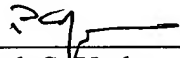
Claims 6 and 14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. By present response claims 6 and 14 have been amended to obviate the use of trademarks, which had rendered the claims indefinite. In view of the present amendments, it is believed that claims 6 and 14 are patentable. Hence it is requested that the rejection of claims 6 and 14 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, be withdrawn.

Conclusion

In view of the remarks and amendments set forth above, Applicant respectfully requests allowance of the pending claims. If the Examiner believes that a telephonic interview will help speed this application toward issuance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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